



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

DAVID P. LITTELL
COMMISSIONER

March 23, 2010

TO INTERESTED PARTIES

**RE: Public Comment Draft
Addendum to 2005 Androscoggin River TMDL**

Attached is a public comment draft addendum to the Department of Environmental Protection's May 2005 Androscoggin River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Report.

The 2005 TMDL was approved by the Environmental Protection Agency on July 18, 2005, and became the basis for DEP action approving wastewater discharge permits and water quality certification for various facilities in the Androscoggin River.

This addendum has been produced as a result of the revision and recalibration of the underlying water quality model for Gulf Island Pond following the correction of a dispersive mixing error (which could affect additional oxygen injection requirements) and a recalculation of the sediment area contributing phosphorus to the pond (which could affect final effluent limits for total phosphorus and/or ortho-phosphorus). The Department was directed to make these changes by the Board of Environmental Protection in its February 8, 2008 appeal orders of the wastewater discharge permits for Verso Paper's Jay pulp and paper mill and Rumford Paper's Rumford pulp and paper mill, and of the water quality certification for FPL Energy's Gulf Island-Deer Rips Hydro Project.

In accordance with EPA guidance, this draft TMDL addendum is being made available for comment by the parties to the appeal proceeding and members of the public. The deadline for the Department's receipt of comments on the draft TMDL addendum is 5 P.M. on Thursday, April 22, 2010. Comments may be submitted to my attention by regular mail (Department of Environmental Protection, 17 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0017) or by electronic mail (dana.p.murch@maine.gov).

Please contact me by email or by phone (207-287-7784) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dana Paul Murch".

Dana Paul Murch
Division of Water Quality Management